

# College of Science and Mathematics establishes Cal Poly's first endowed chair

**E**ighteen pledges totaling more than \$1 million from companies and individuals will fully fund the Arthur C. Edwards Endowed Chair for Coatings Technology and Ecology in the College of Science and Mathematics.

The chair — defined as the investment of at least \$1 million

Department and the coatings industry.

The lead gift of \$425,000 is being provided by Dunn-Edwards Co. Additional gifts of \$75,000 and \$25,000 are being donated by Ken Edwards and Edward Edwards, respectively, two of Arthur Edwards' three sons who now run the family-owned corporation.

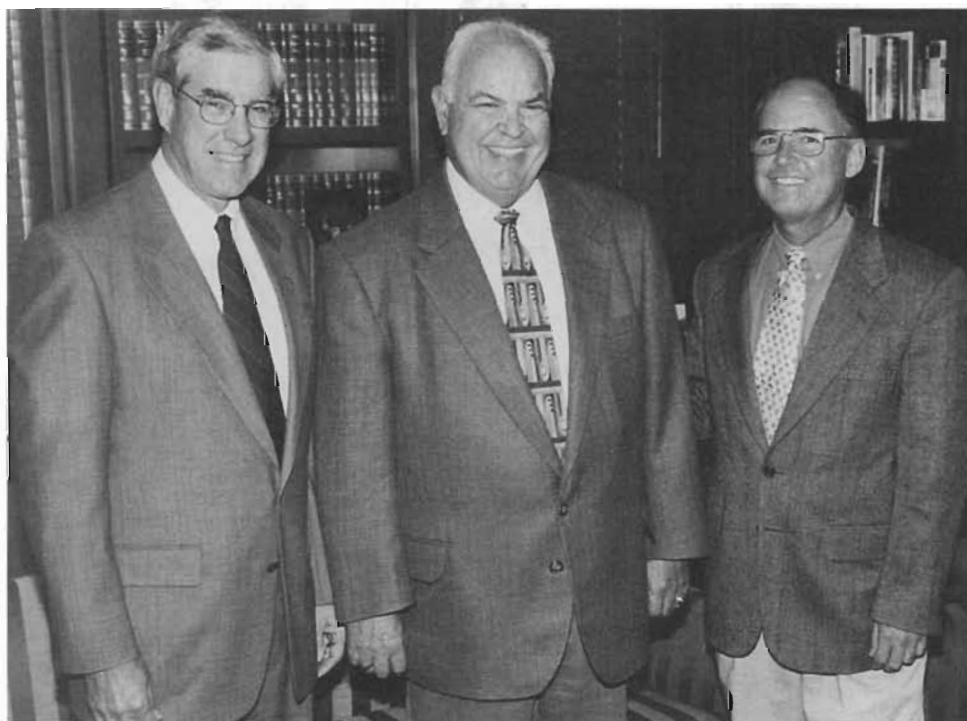
possible without the close working relationships among industry, faculty, and the university."

"The endowed chair is the culmination of a very close and always-growing educational and professional partnership between the faculty and students. The gifts will make it possible to create a center of excellence that will benefit Cal Poly, industry, and provide special opportunities for both," said Phil Bailey, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics.

Bob Smiland, owner of Smiland Paint Co., seconded Bailey's sentiments. "Good and worthwhile projects deserve a quick response, and the industry provided that support to this outstanding program."

All this would not have been possible without Biochemistry and Chemistry Professors Max Wills and Dane Jones. They have worked closely with the industry to provide the most up-to-date instruction. Students have benefited from the industry partnerships through internships and numerous jobs at coating companies throughout the county.

Other significant pledges have been made by Smiland Paint Co., DuPont, Rohm and Haas, Engineered Polymers Solutions, Kronos Inc., Vista Paint Corp., Ishihara Corp., Ellis Paint Co., Millennium Inorganic Chemicals, Hansteck Corp., the Los Angeles Society for Coating Technology, Joe Reilly, Burgess Pigment Co., E. T. Horn, and Jim Calkin. **CP**



*Celebrating Cal Poly's first endowed chair are (left to right) President Warren J. Baker, Ken Edwards (Dunn-Edwards Corp.), and Phil Bailey (dean of the College of Science and Mathematics). (Photo by Tony Hertz)*

to support a new faculty position specially focused in polymers and coatings education — is the first step in creating a western regional center for polymers and coatings chemistry. Such a center has been a long-term goal arising from a 12-year association between Cal Poly's Chemistry and Biochemistry

"This is indeed an historic day," Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker said. "As we are about to celebrate the university's centennial, we are pleased to have raised the more than \$1 million necessary to establish the endowed chair. [This is] a first in Cal Poly's history that could not have been

## Patrick E. Edwards Fund supports studies in biological sciences

**W**hen **Pat Edwards (BIO '75)** was an engineering student at Cal Poly, he took a Biology 101 class from V. L. Holland, a new professor.

It was a life-altering experience.

"I'd never had biology in high school," said Edwards, "and Holland's class — his first assignment at Cal Poly — was a real mind-blower for me. It changed everything."

Under Holland's mentorship, Edwards switched his major and his direction in life, becoming the first person in his family to obtain an undergraduate degree and eventually pursuing a successful career in pharmaceutical sales.

"I wanted to give back to Cal Poly not just my time but my resources because I had such a rich experience there," Edwards said. "I also wanted to credit V. L. Holland for my satisfying 25-year career." Holland is currently the chair of the Biological Sciences Department.

Edwards has established the Patrick M. Edwards Fund for Excellence in the Biological Sciences

Department. He created the endowment with a personal donation of \$10,000. His employer, Searle, owned by Monsanto, will match the funds on a one-to-one basis, bringing the fund balance to \$20,000.

Edwards, who represents the College of Science and Mathematics on the alumni board, will collaborate with Holland to allocate unrestricted monies from the fund to a variety of studies in the biological sciences, including sending students to intercollegiate competitions and supporting them in studies such as the Biosphere 2 project (*see story under "University News"*).

For more information on planned giving or other contributions to the College of Science and Mathematics, call Cary A. Bowdich, director of advancement, at 805/756-5713 (fax 805/756-1670, e-mail [cbowdich@calpoly.edu](mailto:cbowdich@calpoly.edu)). For matching gifts, contact Cal Poly Matching Gifts Specialist Kathryn Sutherland, Advancement Services, 805/756-1555 (fax 805/756-5409, e-mail [ksutherl@calpoly.edu](mailto:ksutherl@calpoly.edu)). **CP**

## PG&E Community Program Awards Cal Poly \$27,000

PG&E spokesperson Missie Hobson presents Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker (right) and Vice President for Advancement Bill Boldt with a total 1999 gift contribution of \$27,000. The award, part of PG&E's Community Vitality Program, was divided among the Biological Sciences Department's Marine Sciences Display, the College of Business' Project Enrichment Seminars, Cal Poly Arts' Stone Soup Festival, the College of Engineering's MESA Engineering Program, and the Solar Car Club's 1999



Sponsorship. The PG&E program provides annual financial support to organizations that promote the economic, environmental, and social welfare of the communities and markets they serve. (Photo by Laura Dickinson) **CP**




## Arnolds establish trust for the UCTE

**R**etired Los Angeles-area educators Lee and Allyn Arnold of Cayucos have created a planned gift that will benefit Cal Poly's University Center for Teacher Education (UCTE) and enhance the center's hands-on approach.

"We are extremely gratified by the Arnolds' generous gift to the UCTE," said Director Susan Roper. "Their contribution is by far the largest gift the education programs at Cal Poly have received.

"As retired educators, Allyn and Lee endorse the UCTE's field-based teacher preparation and support the UCTE's many school partnerships," Roper said.

The UCTE has reshaped the way student teachers are educated at Cal Poly, giving them as much actual classroom experience as possible. The center works to improve teacher education by actively collaborating with local schools to foster "simultaneous renewal."

The Arnolds' gift, established as a charitable remainder trust, creates a future gift for the UCTE while generating current tax and financial benefits for the Arnolds. For more information on planned giving, contact Mike McCall, J.D., Cal Poly Director of Planned Giving and Endowments, 805/756-7125 or toll-free at 800/549-2666 (fax 805/756-2711, e-mail [mmccall@calpoly.edu](mailto:mmccall@calpoly.edu)). 

## James Brennan: An ambassador with portfolio

**J**ames Brennan (**MECH ENGR '62**) has always been an ambassador for understanding between the worlds of technology, industry, and the average citizen, and, most recently, between Cal Poly and Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden.

While at Cal Poly, economics and political science classes spurred his interest in technological applications.

"The contribution I wanted to make was bringing technology to bear on commercial and social issues," he said.

After graduation Brennan joined General Electric's Overseas Sales Group, selling and providing local support for nuclear reactors in Italy, Spain, India, and Japan.

But it took up to eight years to develop, design, and build a plant, and Brennan wanted to make a more immediate impact. He earned an MBA from UC Berkeley, worked in industry and banking, then joined the Stanford Research Institute to help create market strategies for mechanical and electrical industries worldwide.

From Stanford, Brennan moved to the Bay Area Rapid Transit Agency. "I wanted to encourage people to make a behavioral change, to opt for electrical intra-urban rail transport instead of cars."


With the OPEC oil embargo in the '70s, energy

efficiency became a hot topic again. As president of the Pacific Energy Services Company, a subsidiary of PG&E, Brennan educated school and hospital managers on the cost-effectiveness of energy-saving devices.

In 1988 he became an independent energy consultant, pointing out that "anything we can do to remove our dependency from a fossil-fuel-based economy is likely to be of social benefit, including the reduction of global warming effects."

Brennan's latest venture as an ambassador/educator is his gift of appreciated securities to endow student and teacher exchanges in mechanical engineering between Cal Poly and the Chalmers University of Technology. (Brennan's Swedish wife, Gunilla Ramell, director of corporate relations for the World Affairs Council of Northern California, is a strong ally in the project.)

"We considered a charitable remainder trust, but decided against it. The recipient would have to wait for our deaths — we were trying to figure how to get this thing rolling," said Brennan. "Also, with a gift of appreciated stocks, we don't have to pay capital gains, I can turn it over right away, plus receive a tax benefit. It was the best possible option."

For Jim Brennan, positive, speedy change is of the essence, and now his endowment will ensure the same for Cal Poly. 

# GIFTS

- **OrCAD**, a leader in Windows-based electronic design automation software, provided the College of Engineering with software and services valued at more than \$207,000. The gift, which includes products and training for schematic design and print circuit board layout engineering courses, will upgrade the College of Engineering's Computer Aided Design/Computer Aided Manufacturing lab.
- **Adept Technology Inc.**, America's largest manufacturer of industrial robots and a factory automation leader, has donated software and hardware to Cal Poly's Teaching Factory, a two-year project funded in part by the Cal Poly Plan. The Adept donation will be used in the Factory's new Adept Technology Material Automation Cell, which will focus on material handling systems such as simulation systems and robots, giving students hands-on experience in class, team, and senior projects, graduate theses, and applied research projects. Additional funds for the automation cell were provided by the **Society of Manufacturing Engineering**.
- **Carol Andrews** of Browns Valley has established the **Michael T. Andrews Best Senior and Capstone Project Prize Endowment** in memory of her husband, **Michael (MECH AG '61)**. Her gift of \$100,000 will provide annual awards for the best senior project and best capstone project within the Bioresource and Agricultural Engineering Department.
- **Alice Parks Nelson** of San Luis Obispo has donated \$80,000 of local real estate for the benefit of the Music Department.
- The College of Agriculture has been awarded an \$80,000 grant and named a participant in the **U.S. Department of Agriculture's Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program**, where students compete for All-American Scholarships to fund tuition, fees, room, board, and other educational expenses. The program's goal is to increase diversity in agriculture.
- **Warner Sheldon (EL ENG '50)** and **Carol E. Skiff** of Carefree, Ariz., have established a \$53,000 charitable remainder trust that will provide future support to the Department of Electrical Engineering.
- **BFGC Architects Planners Inc.** donated \$50,000 to the College of Architecture and Environmental Design to create a student-support endowment. Over the last 50 years the firm has hired at least 50 Cal Poly graduates, and the annual BFGC scholarships will be awarded to architecture majors with well-rounded professional and social skills, good grades, and outstanding leadership skills.
- The **William Randolph Hearst Foundation** increased the College of Business' Hearst Foundation endowment for preserving and restoring Hearst Castle textiles with a gift of \$35,000, bringing the grant level to \$70,000 and enabling a continuing series of Cal Poly interns to gain valuable hands-on experience at the castle.
- The **SST Development Group**, with the cooperation of **Helena Chemical Co.** and **CASE Corp.**, has donated software intended for all areas of agricultural management to the College of Agriculture's geographic information system (GIS) laboratories. Produced by SST, the SSTtoolbox program is designed to manage precision farming technologies. **CE**



## KSBY Gives Gift of Support to Cal Poly

Richard Armfield (left), general manager of San Luis Obispo's NBC local affiliate, KSBY-TV, presents Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker with a check for \$5,000. The gift notes the university's community contributions.

(Photo by Jeff Bliss) **CP**



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